



**Association of
American Cancer Institutes**

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June 24, 2015

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
House Energy and Commerce Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Diana DeGette
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on
Oversight and Investigations
House Energy and Commerce Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Upton and Ranking Member DeGette,

The undersigned cancer centers, members of the Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI), are pleased to support H.R. 6, the 21st Century Cures Act. Your bipartisan work over the last year to accelerate research and discovery has made an impression on the cancer community and the academic health community at large.

We appreciate that the Committee included language in H.R. 6 to authorize \$1.5 billion per year in increased funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) over the next three years, and also language to provide an additional \$10 billion in mandatory funding for the NIH Innovation Fund through Fiscal Year 2021. The NIH has been crippled by stagnant funding over the last several years. Investing in biomedical research will improve public health and advance cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment.

We are pleased that the bill included language to increase funding to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) by \$550 million over five years. Predictable and sustained growth in FDA funding remains a priority for the cancer community and is essential to supporting research and innovation.

We ask that the NIH Innovation Fund and the Cures Innovation Fund in the bill supplement, not supplant, the regular appropriations for the NIH and FDA. Additionally, we ask members of the House of Representatives to cosponsor the bill, and we request that House leadership move H.R. 6 to floor consideration as quickly as possible.

Thanks to you, your staff, and the Committee for your unwavering commitment to improving the discovery, development, and delivery of cures. We look forward to continuing to work with you toward a future without cancer.

Sincerely,

Abramson Cancer Center
Albert Einstein Cancer Center
Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute
Cancer Therapy and Research Center at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
Cardinal Bernardin Cancer Center of Loyola University Chicago
Case Comprehensive Cancer Center, Case Western Reserve University, Seidman Cancer Center, University Hospitals Case Medical Center
Columbia University Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center
Comprehensive Cancer Center St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Comprehensive Cancer Center of Wake Forest University
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
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Mayo Clinic Cancer Center
Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center
Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center, Indiana University
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Moffitt Cancer Center
Oregon Health & Science University Knight Cancer Institute
Penn State Hershey Cancer Institute
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Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins
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Taussig Cancer Institute, Cleveland Clinic
The Dan L. Duncan Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine
The George Washington University Cancer Center
The Jackson Laboratory Cancer Center
The Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center at West Virginia University
The Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota
The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute
The Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center of the University of Miami
The University of Kansas Cancer Center
The University of Kentucky Markey Cancer Center
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